

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image data correction apparatus comprising:
  - a first high-frequency component calculation device for calculating, for each area obtained when one frame of an image has been divided into a plurality of areas, a high-frequency component of original image data representing one frame of the image;
  - a gain coefficient calculation device for calculating gain coefficients of a sharpness correction based upon the high-frequency components of respective ones of the areas calculated by the first high-frequency component calculation device;
  - a second high-frequency component calculation device for calculating a high-frequency component of the original image data;
  - a gain coefficient correction device for correcting the gain coefficients, which have been calculated by said gain coefficient calculation device, based upon the high-frequency component, which has been calculated by said second high-frequency component calculation device, with respect to the one frame of the image; and
  - a sharpness correction device for using the gain coefficients, which have been calculated by said gain coefficient correction device, to apply a sharpness

correction to image data representing corresponding ones of the areas in the original image data.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said gain coefficient correction device corrects the gain  
5 coefficients, which have been calculated by said gain coefficient calculation device, in such a manner that the greater the high-frequency component regarding the one frame of the image calculated by said second high-frequency component calculation device, the smaller the  
10 gain coefficients.

3. A method of correcting image data, comprising the steps of:

calculating a high-frequency component of original image data, which represents one frame of an image, for  
15 each area obtained when one frame of the image has been divided into a plurality of areas;

calculating gain coefficients of a sharpness correction based upon the calculated high-frequency components of respective ones of the areas;

20 calculating a high-frequency component of the original image data;

correcting the calculated gain coefficients based upon the calculated high-frequency component with respect to the one frame of the image; and

25 using the calculated gain coefficients to apply a

sharpness correction to image data representing  
corresponding ones of the areas in the original image  
data.